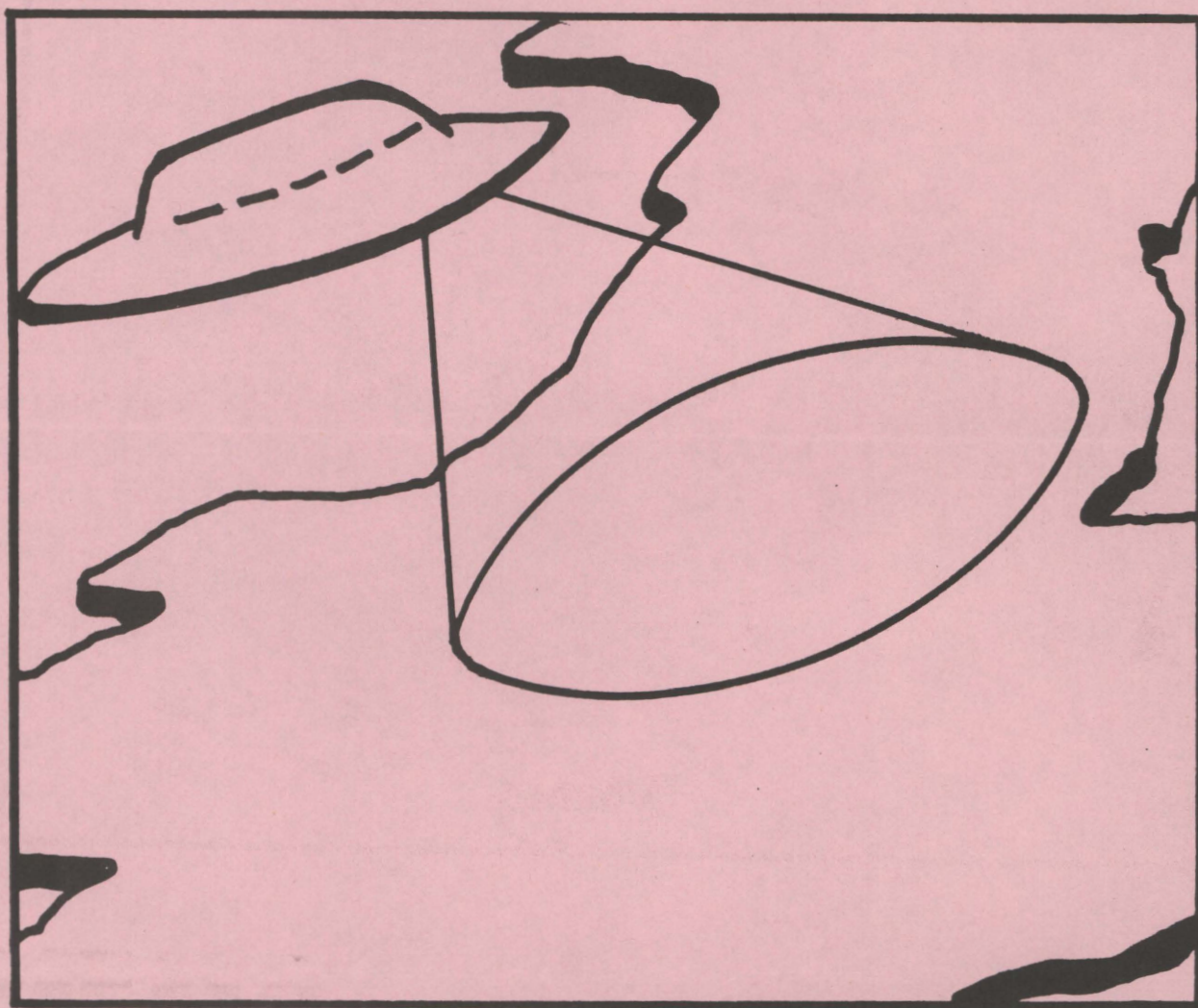


NORTHERN UFO NEWS

49



NEWSLETTER of the NORTHERN UFO NETWORK (NUFON)

23 SUNNINGDALE DRIVE, IRLAM, LANCASHIRE, M30 6NJ

Edited by: Jenny Randles and Paul Whetnall.

"NUFON is a liaison system for independant UFO organisations and researchers in Northern Britain. It acts as a co-ordination centre for investigation, research and general information".

JUNE 1978

ISSUE 49

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 Greater Manchester, Merseyside, Northumbria, Staffs, N & W Yorks.

NB: Sorry we have only six pages this month, due to hospitalisation of editor and reduced activity of these UFOs! Next month is a bumper birthday issue!!

EDITORIAL: An action campaign for official recognition? Stephen Twine

I recently read through the December 1977 issue of NORTHERN UFO NEWS, and this brought to mind a few points.

In the editorial it is said that, "Efforts in the past that have petitioned the government to do something about the UFO problem have been fruitless...". It strikes me that more attention ought to be paid to the matter of bringing pressure to bear on the government. With interest in the phenomenon at a peak due to CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND we would be foolish not to take full advantage of this opportunity.

Perhaps now is the time for ufo groups to set up some kind of 'UFO Truth Association', or pressure group, to make the general public aware of the issues involved and pointing out the unsatisfactory approach of past governments to the problem. Given enough unity, organisation and publicity such an association would surely enable much greater pressure to be applied by the general public.

The editorial also suggested that we send one fully documented high strangeness case to our local MPs, informing them also of the statement made in 1974 by the French Minister of Defence and the subsequent official investigation by the French government into a problem they have openly admitted is real and unexplained. Most MPs are probably unaware of this (and presumably the recent similar admission by the Spanish Government... Editor)

People involved in UFO work presumably want to know the truth about them (be it good or bad, exotic or mundane... Editor), therefore we must get to the stage where we can demand to know what the government knows about them. We KNOW that UFOs are worthy of intensive study, but we must inform the public to such an extent that the government are forced to alter their approach. Governments have come and gone, and only the lack of pressure has meant that their views have remained unchanged (at least publically) for a quarter of a century.

A UFO pressure group should be set up by all interested people with the specific aim of a public relations involvement and encouragement of pressure by means of letters to Prime Ministers, Home Secretaries, Ministers of Defence and MPs. Also the national media should be exploited to bring the matter out into the open. We could even go to the stage of postering, leafleting, petitioning etc.

If such steps are not taken eventually we shall probably never know the truth. Such a campaign must be continuous and moderate in tone (ie not cultist or fanatical). It needs a special organisation to be formed if it is to succeed. At the very worst we will make more people aware of the UFO phenomenon and its implications - and that cannot be a bad thing can it?

If you want to make suggestions, proffer advice or help write to NUFON and we will publish them or write direct to Stephen at: 11 Milton Rd, Cowley, Oxford OX4 3EE

Quote of the month: "Our present efforts to solve the UFO mystery are like trying to climb a 400 feet high wall when its only four feet wide" MILES JOHNSTON (Irish UFO Research Centre)

NUFON CONFERENCE PLANS

Plans have now been drawn up by the Scunthorpe UFO Research Society for the 1978 NUFON conference - to be staged at the Scunthorpe Film Theatre in the town centre on June 24th.

It looks like being the most comprehensive of these events to date with its theme UFO CLOSE ENCOUNTERS.

There are three sessions (10-12; 1-5.30pm; 7.30 - 9.30pm) each with a special flavour. The morning session will feature a fully illustrated talk by UFO photographic expert Barry King on UFO movie and still films (with most of the classic cases included). The afternoon will see the ufological heart of the proceedings with talks on the 'new' ufology by Roger Sandall (The Roots of UFO Cultism), Jenny Randles (The Exotic UFO - Fact or Fantasy?), John Hind and John Rimmer. To round off in style Philip Jenkinson, BBC TV film critic has the floor to himself with an illustrated discussion of science fiction and the ufo as portrayed in the movie industry.

As I am sure you will agree that provides something for everybody, with the rates being just 60p per session or £1.50 for the full day.

Scunthorpe can be reached easily by motorway links and rail and SUFORS will be pleased to help with travel and accomodation information. Why not stop overnight?

FULL DETAILS FROM: Nigel Watson 1 Angerstein Rd. Scunthorpe DN17 2LZ
Telephone: Scunthorpe 66905

There will be visual displays, bookstalls and an exhibition of space art too! If you have anything you would like to display on behalf of your group please contact SUFORS.

AND THE NEXT.....

Whilst we are still gearing ourselves up for the 78 conference UAPROL, the midlands group, are already planning to stage the next NUFON meeting. They have booked the POST HOUSE HOTEL, Leicester for this on SEPTEMBER 23rd. So make a note of that date.

Some top name speakers are being lined up and further details plus times etc will be notified as soon as these are arranged.

NEWS ROUND-UP

Paul Whetnall

HAFI are planning a display in the local cinema to coincide with the film Close Encounters. Photographs of the group in action will be included. SUFORS are keeping themselves busy - apart from organising the conference. Nigel Watson recorded a Radio Humberside programme on UFOs to be broadcast around late June. The group have a stand at the Quibell Park show on June 17/18 - promoting the conference - and the film theatre recently screened 2001 and put posters on every seat advertising the conference!!! After the conference Nigel is off to Warminster for a weeks break. If the conference is a success maybe the UFOs will not let him come back? Just punishment for his cinema display at the Doncaster Odeon? He has a poster showing Patrick Moore gazing at the moon through his telescope whilst a UFO, Captain Kirk and Mr Spock look on in disgust from behind his back! SMIO (Scientific Mysteries Investigation Organisation) is yet another newcomer to the network. Covering Mid Scotland it is headed by David Sydeserff (5 Kingslaw Farm, Tranent, East Lothian EH33 1DY) MAPIT and CUFORT have both commented that NUN is too sightings orientated (its function of course) and feel more articles should be contributed by group members. After all it is YOUR mouth piece. Comments please! We are contemplating a change from 1979 - integrating NORTHERN UFOLOGY (as a quarterly litho magazine) with NUN (published as a smaller newssheet on the missing months). All for one subscription. Any comment pro or con

AROUND THE GROUPS: 8) UFORA Staffordshire Derek James

The group dates back to the mid 1960's (the third oldest participant in the NUFON system). It was originally formulated as a BUFORA branch, and operated for many years as this under the auspices of Paul Gregory. In 1975 the branch organised the first BUFORA conference at Hanley, Stoke on Trent and were in the forefront of UK ufology with Roger Stanway and Tony Pace involved. Then came a split, caused in the main by the departure of Paul Gregory but due to some internal pressures concerning the BUFORA link also. The group was renamed UFORA Staffs (the B for British simply being dropped) and the former wide ranging investigation zone (covering most of the Midlands) narrowed down to Staffordshire and parts of West Midlands county. A policy change at the heart of the group also saw sweeping changes. There was a restriction placed on membership, Only ACTIVE people were allowed to join and investigation and research became more intense. The scope was also widened to include paranormal phenomenon of a more psychic nature owing to their possible relevance to UFOs. In 1977 three of the group became UFOIN investigators, and one of the team holds a pilots licence. Group addresses are:-

Files: Chris Bourne Serendipity Leek Rd Foxearth Werrington Staffs
Research: Derek James 10 Bullockshouse Rd Harriseahead Stoke on Trent.

UFORA remain one of the most active groups in the NUFON set up with an extensive list of official contacts which produce a regular influx of reports.

WE WOULD STILL LIKE SOME MORE BIOGRAPHIES. SO GET WRITING ABOUT YOUR GROUP...NOW!

PUBLICATIONS

A new publication caught sight of recently is WHY INVESTIGATE UFOs? by Robert Morrell of NUFOIS. This pamphlet cover priced at 10p (presumably plus postage) is an introduction to the UFO field in general and the whys and wherefores of UFO investigation. Ideal to recommend to anyone who knows nothing about UFOs. Mind you - some might quibble with Bobs views on the parapsychical side to the UFO phenomenon - but its good value none the less. Just a reminder of two other publications. MAPITS report on 1973 cases is still available from them at 40p - the same price as CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE NORTHERN KIND - NUFONs special on the ufo scene in 1978 as related to the north and midlands.

The new issue of FSR (Vol 23 No 6) is out now and contains the full report on the Rainford CE3 case (see brief details in February NUN). FSR is available at 70p per issue or £4.20 per annum from FSR Publications; West Malling, Maidstone

THAT SALTAIRE PHOTO....

You may recall from the September 1977 issue (case 77/116) a photograph taken by three boys at Saltaire, West Yorkshire. Nigel Watson of SUFORS has been trying to follow this up but has only turned up facts which detract somewhat from the story as originally told. There was NOT a teacher witness to the object when the photograph was taken from the schoolfield, although the witness says that teachers examined the photo under a microscope and pronounced it genuine. To quote from the witnesses most recent letter, "...I heard a buzzing...I then told my friend Steven (my mate) and he handed me the camera. I then took a picture. Not realizing I didn't focus the camera. Then I open the camera and the film and I had a picture of it. I then ran inside with the film...I then told the Telegraph & Argus and they put it in the paper...The photograph was given to a student, who's camera it was, to save and he didn't come back to school again so I never saw him or the photo again..." (My underlining - editor)

UFO OVER AMUNITION DUMP? UFOIN Investigation by Nigel Watson
4701 Scorton, Nth Yorkshire

S5

In the Summer Mt Thomas Adams and another man was on guard duty at a lonely camp. At 2am Mr Adams was awoken by a pulsating vibration that pounded on his ears. It did not wake his friend and he did not do so, but went outside to see the cause, thinking it might be some kind of aircraft. On getting to the door of the hut he saw a brilliant blue light flooding the area of a canopy of trees nearby. It was metallic looking, not unlike lightning, but continuous and very bright. The sound was definitely associated with it. The light did not flicker but remained still for about a minute and then gradually faded. The sound also faded concurrently as if the object causing it were moving directly upwards. The witness went back to bed and had an intense feeling that he must not divulge this to anyone. This feeling kept him silent until now! He is certain that it was not an aircraft of any kind.

6207 August 1962 Pre 22.30 Morecambe, Lancs MED B MAPIT S4

Mr Allan Farrell was in his car waiting for his wife, daughter and sister in law to return from a visit to town. He had the radio on, and was watching the stars. The sky was cloudless. Suddenly he noticed two very bright stars side by side. He realised this was unusual, but then they suddenly flicked off together and after a few minutes no other stars were 'observed'. Winding the window down he made sure there was no cloud. Then he wound it up again and fixed the position. 10/15 minutes later they appeared again in the same spot and blinked out after a minute or so. There was no sound and no source for stray reflections. As they disappeared this time a faint fuzzy glow appeared in the spot and accelerated towards him growing brighter. It passed overhead as a cigar shape with short stubby wings glowing very bright and streaked out to sea. It then made an incredible angled turn upwards and disappeared in a pin point of light within seconds.

76/151 June 6 1976 21.45 Didsbury, Gt Mcr MED A MAPIT S4

Young mother Jacqueline Carp was attending to her poorly son when she noticed a fast moving object through her south facing window. It was lollypop stick shaped and glowing bright red with a heat haze effect around it. It moved very fast to the SW and she asked her son if he could see it. He said 'yes'. The sky was still light. This was, of course, the night when the brilliant fireball crossed England at 22.35. This does not seem to be related to this event, and is another example of seemingly real UFOs that night. Almost as if the UFOs knew the fireball was coming and thought it might be a handy cover for their activities!

STRANGE PHENOMENON OVER LEICESTERSHIRE

77/266 June 21 1977 22.17 Hinckley, Leics MED A HAPI S5

Mr Jan Rygelski is an ex RAF pilot. Spotting a bright pinkish glow outside he went to the window to look and called his wife over. Both went outside to observe better. The pinkish, flame like light surrounded a central dark oval and intermingled were bluish flames. The flames periodically grew larger, thus giving an overall impression that



the object expanded and contracted in pulses. The object remained stationary at 20 degree elevation in the south for seven minutes and was $\frac{1}{2}$ inch at arms length. It vanished as if fading away, but as it did so two very bright yellow lights appeared each side of the spot - about eight inches separation at arms length. They were considerably smaller than the main object and moved off to the east disappearing from view in a matter of seconds. The sky was clear and dusk was just falling.

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77/267 Late Aug 1977 late pm Alnwick, Northumbria LITS B BUFORG S3

A report investigated for us by Alan & Tricia Price of BUFORG concerning an RAF man and two colleagues who sighted a starlike light moving erratically about the sky near the base. Permission for knowledge of radar confirmation was refused on the grounds that the information was classified, but the witnesses state that they know that radar trackings have been made at the base.

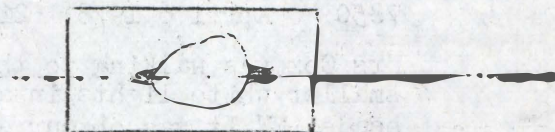
77/268 November 3 1977 24.00 Crewe, Cheshire MED A FUFOR S3

Two witnesses watched an orange ball of light with a fuzzy tail appear in the NE and streak across the sky very fast. It was as bright as the moon and the apparant size of a golf ball at arms length. At 19 degree elevation it stopped and was viewed through binoculars. It then streaked away into the distance after being in view two minutes. Cloudy, breezy with moon and stars visible.

7847 January 31 1978 23.20 Northwich, Cheshire MED A FUFOR S3

Mrs Buckley, a housewife, saw a strange object to the SE through her kitchen window. It was bright and roughly round, although hazy, with two dark patches at each side giving it a Saturn like appearance. It was the apparant size of a tennis ball at arms length and was in view 4 seconds fading as it moved to the NE. It remained near ground level. Cloudy, cold with a breeze.

NB There is some doubt as to whether this sighting took place on December 31st or not. Perhaps FUFOR could confirm.



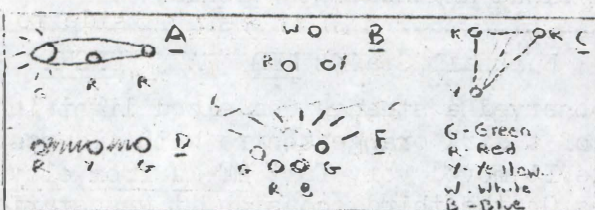
7849 April 5 1978 03.00 North Ashton, Mssyde MED A WUFOS S3

Phyllis Wilson is an OAP and a poor sleeper. She was looking through the bedroom window when she caught sight of a large firey oval over the opposite rooftops. Calling her husband they both watched for ten minutes as it stayed in one place being obscured by cloud on occasion. However, at one point it seemed to move (when neither witness was looking!) so that it positioned itself in front of a cloud that had just passed it! The Moon was not responsible being new at the time.

MULTI-WITNESS EVENT OVER LEICESTER

7846 January 24 1978 18.15 on Leicester MED A UAPROL S5

In the April issue we featured reports from HAPI on several phenomenon that were observed in Leicestershire. UAPROL have come up with some cooperative stories six of which form the basis for this report. Thanks to John Cole and Trevor Thornton for correlating these. A Mr Howe observed an orange ball in the SE of Leicester from a very high point. It then changed into a large cigar with two steady red and one blue/green light. It was in view an hour. B Mrs Eld saw three lights in a triangle coloured white, red and yellow at 88 degrees elevation in the SW. They were steady and in view five minutes. This took place at 19.10



Towards the close of sighting A. C Miss Bott looking East saw two red and one white light, stationary and steady. A minute later they moved slowly north then moved back south clearly in a triangle. It hovered over a road and the witness walked under it, estimating its

size as just 3 feet. After 25 minutes observation it moved off towards Hinckley. D At the same time (19.30) a head teacher saw a white light turn to become a red, yellow and blue/green light heading S slowly. E At 20.00 from Huncote an ex RAF navigator saw a group of reddish lights, with white and blue/green too in the west. It was seen for 15 minutes. F At 22.20 a security worker heard a dynamo sound and saw a huge ring of lights with a green glow rising into clouds. Checks revealed that no aircraft were in the area during the observation periods.

SHAPE CHANGING UFO AT THE RECTORY

7848 March 18 1978 early AM Borley, Essex MED C MUFORA S6

Whilst outside our normal area (though witnessed by northern people) this is a most intriguing story. Five people were at the site of Borley Rectory, which was formerly reputed to be the most haunted residence in Britain before it burnt down. A strange star, moving erratically, was observed by one man low on the horizon. They all crossed fields towards it and it resolved into an orange dragonfly shape. Believing this was what it was they were amazed when it began to change into a flattened oval, turning more cream in colour. Then it split in two - although both ovals were the same size as the original. Then the lower one vanished and the whole thing deepened to an orange colour and grew to the size of the full moon with the top left hand corner missing. The whole thing was moving up and down. One man tried to take a photograph but the film had been put in the camera incorrectly and this failed. In fact he had to leave the scene, his hands covered in photographic jelly. The object now turned into a cone and then just vanished. It had been in view 15/20 minutes. All witnesses were suprised as they had gone looking for ghosts - not UFOs! However, it illustrates the unity of the paranormal and one cannot help remembering that between 11.30pm the previous night and about 00.30 the same morning at that other 'ley' Risley, Cheshire Ken Edwards had had his CE4 experience with entities, time loss, EM and physiological effects! Perhaps there is a link.

7850 April 6 1978 21.00 Crewe, Cheshire LOW A FUFOR S3

Mrs Cox was walking to the chip shop when she caught sight of a white light with smaller white lights in a semicircle underneath. It was 30 degree elevation and headed NW. It was obscured by houses. She came out of the chip shop about one minute later and saw the object to the NE at 20 degree elevation following the same course. After a minute it was again obscured by houses. Walking home she caught sight again in the N heading NNE at elevation 12 degrees. Clear, stary night.

ANOTHER UFO WITH LIGHT BEAMS

7851 April 14 1978 20.20 Stafford, Staffs MED B UFORA S5

Readers may recall the observation mentioned in brief last month (7845) made by the editor from Irlam. This was passed off as a helicopter - but now we have a report from 60 miles SE of Irlam of an object seen heading very slowly NW two hours earlier. There were four witnesses, including a nurse. She watched for 50 minutes as the amber coloured oval the size of a golf ball at arms length moved very slowly, stopping on occasion for some minutes. When



it stopped it gave off beams of light in an arrowhead fashion, rotated slightly and then moved off. At 20.55 it stopped for the final time low on the horizon. It remained until 21.10 when it rotated and gave off the beams of light again and just vanished. At first sighting the sky was still light and the oval shape clear. Weather was cool with scattered cloud and moderate breeze.

7852 April 15 1978 20.55 Bucknall, Staffs MED A UFORA S4

A young married couple in their car observed a strange pea sized light in the top of their windscreen. It consisted of a dark orange centre with flourescent sheen and a distinct yellow outer edge. It moved very fast SE-NW from elevation 30 - 45 degrees. It stopped three times. On the third occasion it was static for 15 seconds before accelerating away eastwards very fast. The witnesses had got out of the car, but they returned and tried to chase the object but it was too fast. The sky was clear but dusk was just descending.

DON'T FORGET THE NEXT ISSUE IS NUMBER 50 - A SPECIAL CELEBRATORY ISSUE